

IN THE WHITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q79812

Yoshihito KATO, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/780,672

Group Art Unit: 2655

Confirmation No.: 1994

Examiner: Shimizu Matsuichiro

Filed: February 19, 2004

For: LOCKING DEVICE, LOCKER, KEY AND LOCKING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form which are all the references of record in parent application No. 10/286,770. Applicant is not submitting duplicate copies of these references but requests that they be listed on the face of any patent granted on the above application. (See 37 CFR §1.98(d)). Copies of any cited co-pending United States applications, if not previously submitted, are being submitted herewith, except copies of co-pending non-provisional United States patent applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

Information Disclosure Statement Application No. 10/780,672

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Telephone: (202) 293-7060

Alan J. Kasper

Registration No. 25,426

Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE 23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 1, 2005



of 2

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

| Application Number | 10/780,672 |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Confirmation Number | 1994 |
| Filing Date | February 19, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Yoshihito KATO |
| Art Unit | 2655 |
| Examiner Name | Shimizu Matsuichiro |
| Attorney Docket Number | Q79812 |

Complete if Known

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|
| Evaminas | Cite | Document Number | | Publication Date | |
| | No.1 | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
| Ĩ | | US 6,412,321 | | 07/2002 | Aramburu et al |
| | | US 6,155,089` | | 12/2000 | Hurskainen et al |
| | | US 6,055,487 | | 12/1999 | Hyatt et al |
| | | US 5,826,450 | | 10/1998 | Lerchner et al. |
| | | US 5,742,236 | | 04/1998 | Cremers et al. |
| | | US 5,469,727 | | 11/1995 | Spahn et al. |
| | | US 5,351,042 | | 09/1994 | Aston Walter J. |
| | | US 5,671,621 | | 09/1997 | Watanuki et al. |
| | | US · | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Examiner | Examiner Cite Foreign Patent Documen | | ent Publication Date | | Name of Patentee or | | |
| Initials* | No.1 | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | ************************************** | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | ····· | | | | |
| | | | * | | | | |

| | | NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
| | | | |
| | | | ļ <u>.</u> |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| Examiner Signature | Date Consid | ered |
|--------------------|-------------|------|